

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/685,770

Examiner

Henry N. Tran

Applicant(s)

KURAMATSU, HIROYASU

Art Unit

2674

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 2/23/05.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-30.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
- ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date 2/23/05
- ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
- ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
- ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
- ☐ Other _____

Henry N. Tran
HENRY N. TRAN
PRIMARY EXAMINER

DETAILED ACTION

The Amendment filed 2/23/05 has been considered in preparing this Office action. Applicant's Amendments to the claims and Remarks have overcome the rejections recited in the prior Office action mailed 11/24/04.

Information Disclosure Statement

1. A telephone interview was conducted between the examiner, Mr. Henry Tran, and applicant's attorney, Mr. Andrew J. Taska, on 12/13/05 to discuss the IDS submitted on 4/3/03 as indicated in the remarks, page 18 of the applicant's amendment received on 2/23/05. Because said IDS has not been found in the file record or the IFW record, the attorney agreed that the IDS is resubmitted with Postal Receipt by fax directly to the examiner fax number for consideration.
2. The examiner has considered the document listed in form PTO-1449 submitted with the Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) faxed to the examiner on 12/13/05 with Postal Receipt indicated that the IDS was mailed to the Office on 4/3/03 (see the attached form PTO-1449).

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 1-30 allowed.
4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

As argued on pages 18-28 of the applicant's Amendment received 2/23/05, the claimed invention of each of the independent claims 1, 10, 18, 21 and 25 requires that "a predetermined code indicative of the end of data" (claims 1, 18 and 25) or "a card end tag indicative of the end of each said card of the data" (claims 10 and 21) is being detected for controlling the starting or stopping of the light-emission means (backlight 34); whereas the closest prior art, the Terashima

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patent (U.S. Patent No. 5,970,419) and the Lincke et al. document (U.S. Publication No. 2003/0197719) requires a time counter for generating a control signal S_{cb} or a transmitted message for shutting down the transmission side of the TCP connection which does not teach the claimed invention.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

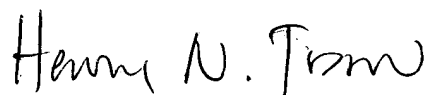
5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. They are U.S. Patents Nos.: 6,630,914 to Tamekuni et al, 6,597,339 to Ogawa, 6,426,736 to Ishihara, 6,157,849 to Cho, 5,894,298 to Hoeksma, and 5,548,832 to Karam that teach communication devices, each having a controlled backlight for a display.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Henry N. Tran whose telephone number is 571-272-7760. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:00-4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Patrick N. Edouard can be reached on 571-272-7603. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Henry N. Tran". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Henry N Tran
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2674

12/13/05

HT